

REMARKS**Introduction**

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended to the undersigned during a telephonic discussion clarifying the nature of the rejections of the recent office action which occurred on, or about, March 1, 2007.

Status of Claims

Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment. Upon entry of this Amendment claims 23-34, 39-49, 52 and 53 will be pending in this application. Claims 23 and 34 are the currently pending independent claims. Claims 35-38, 50, 51 and 54 are canceled herein. Claims 1-22 were previously canceled. Claims 23-24, 27, 28, 30, 31, 34, 39-41, 43, 44, 46, 52 and 53 are currently amended. No new matter is added.

Response to Rejections under 35 USC § 102(b) and § 103**Introduction, Traverse and Comments Regarding Office Action**

The Office Action Maintains the rejection of claims 34, 35, 38, 40, 46, 47, 51 and 53 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. 3,891,403 to Weil et al. (Weil '403). The Office Action maintains the rejection of claims 34, 35, 38, 40, 41, 43, 45-47 and 51 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. 4,560,547 to Schora et al. (Shora '547). The Office Action Maintains the rejection of claims 23, 24, 29-31, 34, 35, 38-40, 45-47 and 50-54 under 35U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. 3,715,301 to Tassoney et al. (Tassoney '301).

The Office Action Maintains the rejection of claims 25, 26, 41 and 42 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Tassoney '301 in view of U.S. 3,118,746 to Stratford (Stratford

'746). The Office Action Maintains the rejection of claims 27 and 43 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Tassoney '301 in view of U.S. 2,639,982 to Kalbach (Kalbach '982). The Office Action Maintains the rejection of claims 28, 32, 33, 44, 48 and 49 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Tassoney '301 in view of U.S. 3,224,954 to Schlinger et al. (Schlinger '954). The Office Action Maintains the rejection of claims 36 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tassoney '301 in view of U.S. 3,915,395 to Graf (Graf '395).

Applicants maintain their previous traverse all rejections over of Weil '403, Shora '547, Tassoney '301, Stratford '746, Kalbach '982, Schlinger '954 and Graf '395 (whether considered alone or in combination) as filed in the Amendment and Request for Reconsideration under 35 CFR § 1.111 filed on February 9, 2006, as well as the additional traverse set forth below. Further, as set forth above claims 35-38, 50, 51 and 54 are canceled herein rendering the rejection of these claims moot. Also, claims 23-24, 27, 28, 30, 31, 34, 39-41, 43, 44, 46, 52 and 53 are amended herein rendering the rejection of these claims and the claims which depend from them moot.

Further, Applicants respectfully traverse the Office Action assertions and position set forth on page 12 of the Office Action. Applicants respectfully assert the original claims and amended claims are distinguished over all cited art and any amended limitations provide yet additional distinguishing elements over the disclosure and teachings of the documents cited by the USPTO. For completeness, Applicants respectfully assert the amended recitation regarding "0.30 vol% or less CO" should be giving patentable weight.

Supplemental Traverse

Applicants respectfully assert that independent claims 23 and 34 each recite connection to a feed source as suggested by the Examiner during the aforementioned teleconference, *i.e.*, source of “tar sand” (claim 23) and source of “oil shale” (claim 34).

Additionally, each of independent claims 23 and 34 have been amended to recite:

- “a fluidizing medium inlet connected to a source of fluidizing medium gas comprising hydrogen in a concentration of 95 vol. % or greater”;
- “said fluidized bed receiving a heat from contact with said fluidizing medium”;
- “said reactor system having means for feeding said fluidizing medium at a temperature in a range of from 800°F to 1500°F”; and
- “said fluidized bed continuously reacting at a fluidized bed temperature in a range of from 800°F to 1200°F”.

For the reasons stated herein and previously by Applicants, it is respectfully asserted that all pending claims are distinguished over all cited prior art references and are in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully assert none of the cited references disclose all claimed elements of Applicants’ claimed invention either expressly or inherently and thus none of the cited references anticipate the claimed invention. Thus, Applicants request the withdrawal of all rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Applicants respectfully assert none of the cited references whether considered separately, or in combination, teach or suggest all claimed elements of the claimed invention. Thus, no *prima facie* case of obviousness exists and Applicants request the withdrawal of all rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully assert that all current rejections be withdrawn and assert that all pending claims are allowable and request reconsideration and the allowance of this application.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for the timely consideration of this amendment, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 3495-7000US3. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: March 12, 2007

By: _____

Eric G. Wright

Registration No. 48,045

Correspondence Address:

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.
3 World Financial Center
New York, NY 10281-2101
(212) 415-8700 Telephone
(212) 415-8701 Facsimile

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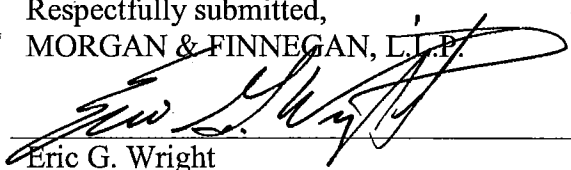
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